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re - Tobacco Free Generation Bill 2014 (No 40)

We had this big long 4 page letter written about why this Tobacco Free Generation bill is ridiculous...

- how and why it would impact us financially and impact the viability & devalue our CBD mixed business...
- why we would have to sack 1 full time and 2 casual employees...
- why visiting Adult tourists and mainlanders would find it absolutely laughable...
- how major supermarkets would get around this legislation with their home deliveries...
- how tobacco retailers are one of the most regulated retail businesses...
- how already the black market for illegal tobacco has grown substantially over the last 3 years... (just ask Australia Post about the large smelly parcels coming into the Glenorchy PO!!)
- how the Tobacco Free Generation bill should be called the Cannot Purchase Bill...
- why, if at the age of 18 the Government or anybody told me I could not do something, I would have said watch me! Then borrowed my older sister's licence and gone out and bought them just to snub my nose at this law. No getting someone to buy them for me, I would have easily found a way to do it myself!

That letter was long and boring and would have been glanced over and placed in the pile with the other objections.

This letter asks some basic questions and gives you some alternatives to contemplate...

The 3 main questions that need to be asked are?

- 1. Is this a legal product?
- 2. Am I an Adult after turning 18?
- 3. Am I responsible for my own decisions and actions if I am well informed about a legal product?

If you answered YES to the above 3 questions then how you can even consider restricting the sale of a Legal product to only one age group of Consenting Adults?

As a Government how can you say that smoking is the only major drain on our Health department or are smokers just an easy target?

In the near future will you also restrict the sale of Alcohol? The cost for the problems associated with this socially accepted legal drug are a big drain not only on the Health Department but also the Police department (am I correct in stating that approximately 60% of Police work, more in some communities, is alcohol related) this includes drunkenness, fighting, accidents including vehicular, gambling and family violence etc.

In the near future will you also be restricting the sale of Fast Food? We are reading and hearing everyday about all the problems associated with Obesity yet the Government seems to be sitting on their hands and doing nothing about this evolving major Health problem.

If smoking is so bad for us why are Tobacco Products so freely available in every supermarket, local shop, service station, bottleshops, nightclubs, pubs etc, etc.

We need Sensible Legislation to impact on the availability of tobacco products, not just for one generation but for all generations.

Why not consult with the Industry and Tobacco Retailers about sensible Legislation?

Sensible legislation could include some or all of the following:

- Immediately: No Issuing of new Tobacco Licences, only renewals to be renewed
- Immediately: No Tobacco or Cigarette products to be sold from 6pm to 8am to any age
- Immediately: No Tobacco or Cigarette products to be sold in Club, Pubs, Cafes or Nightclubs
- July 1 2016: No Tobacco or Cigarette products to be sold in Bottleshops & Service Stations
- From July 1 2016: Any Tobacco retailer who wants to exit the Tobacco industry can apply for

A Government Tobacco Exit Package

- July 1 2017: All Tobacco Retailers must belong to a Tobacco Retailers Group
- July 1 2018: No Tobacco or Cigarette products to be sold in Major Supermarkets or Department

 Stores (would any State or Federal Government be brave enough to enact this?)

By stopping the issuing of any new Tobacco Licences, then the businesses that already have a Tobacco Licence will not be financially disadvantaged if and when they wish to sell their businesses.

Existing Tobacco licences cannot be sold to other persons or businesses; they are specific to the business that has the licence now, existing licences can only be transferred to a new owner buying that business.

A person should only be able to buy tobacco products between the hours of 8am to 6pm, this then restricts the times that any adult person can buy tobacco products.

Tobacco Products should not be sold in Clubs, Pubs, Cafes or Nightclubs especially those that only open after 6pm, these licences should be immediately revoked.

Over the next few years gradually bring in legislation that stops or restricts certain retail premises from selling or supplying tobacco products.

Have a Government Tobacco Exit Package for retailers to exit the industry. The Retailer could hand back their Tobacco Licence and be paid out calculated on their legal tobacco purchases and payments averaged over 5 years (ie if their average purchase was \$100,000 per annum then a payment of 10% down to 5% for the 5 years calculated payment would be \$40,000 OR 15% down to 10% would be a payment of \$65,000).

Make all Tobacco Retailers belong to a Tobacco Retailers Group this will effectively put an industry watchdog over all tobacco retailers, the TRG then can ensure that retailers are compliant with all Federal and State laws related to selling of tobacco products.

And finally if any Government is brave enough, any Major Supermarket or Department store is prohibited from selling tobacco products.

Sensible Legislation is what we need NOT this unworkable Tobacco Free Generation Legislation.

Regards

Sally Woolley & Phil Marsh